(RRBs). Since RBI had raised the rate of interest payable by NABARD on its line of credit funds by 1.5% per annum from 1-9-1999, NABARD had to revise its rate of interest subsequently from the same date.

(c) and (d) : Since NABARD determines the rates of interest on its refinance in relation to the rates of interest payable by it to RBI, further revision in rates of interest will depend upon the change in the interest rates of line of credit funds of RBI.

Non-Implementation of assured career progression and cadre review in Customs and Central excise Services

2685. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that non-implementation of the recommendations of the 5th Pay Commission, regarding the Assured Career progression Scheme and Cadre Review, is causing dissatisfaction amongst the Class-I officers of the Indian Customs and Central Excise Service; and

(b) whether Government have any time frame to implement these proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The assured career progression scheme has not been found acceptable in respect of officers of Group 'A' Central Services by the Government. However the cadre review proposal is being placed before the Cabinet, which will take care of satisfactory implementation of the recommendations by the Vth Pay Commission. It is not feasible to fix any time frame in this regard.

Money Laundering Directorate under CBDT

2686. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that the proposed Money Laundering Directorate is likely to be placed under the administrative control of the Central Board of Direct Taxes; and

(b) the reasons for not placing it directly under the Department of Revenue, like Narcotics Control Bureau, so that expertise of officers from Police, Customs, Central Excise could be utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The issue regarding the administration of Prevention of Money-laundering statute will be considered after the passage of the Prevention of Money-laundering Bill, 1999 by the Parliament.

Violation of Customs Act by container Corporation of India

2687. SHRI V. P. DURAISAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that Customs Department at Inland Container Depot, Tuglakabad, New Delhi captured and proved smuggling, pilferage of imported commodities from containers and deliberate violation of Customs Act by Container Corporation of India and a section of its officials/agencies;

(b) if so, the details of such cases proved and under investigation during the last three years; and

(c) the loss suffered by way of custom duty evasion in such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR) : (a) One such case in the last three financial years of attempted unauthorised removal at Inland Container Depot (ICD), Tughlakabad, involving employees of a Conservancy and Sanitation Contractor, employed by Container Corporation of India (CCI) and CCI own officials has been detected by the Customs.

(b) On 2-4-1997 at the main gate of ICD, the Customs Authorities detected an attempt to remove 6370 kgs of plastic scrap alongwith garbage/ packing materials. The scrap was seized and after detailed investigation case was duly adjudicated in April, 1998. The seized scrap was confiscated. Penalty of Rs. 50,000 on the Conservancy and Sanitation Contractor and penalties of Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 3.000 respectively on two employees of CCI for their involvement in this unauthorised removal were imposed under Section 112(a) of the Customs Act.

(c) Does not arise. Since the seized scrap was confiscated, there was no duty loss to the Government.